

Shermans Dale & Young's Churches
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Open Hearts ♥ Open Minds ♥ Open Doors

Christmas Card treasures



Turn old Christmas cards into beautiful keepsake ornaments! It's a fun, simple way to give new life to cards you've received and add a handmade touch to your tree.

What you need:

- Christmas cards
- Scissors
- Glue
- Circle pattern (cut from cardboard or trace around object)
- Hole punch
- Yarn or ribbon
- Glitter (optional)



What you do:

1. Trace a circle onto two Christmas cards.
2. Cut out the circles and glue the backs together.
3. Decorate the edges with glitter or ribbon for extra sparkle.
4. Punch a hole at the top and thread yarn or ribbon through to hang.



Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights.
— James 1:17 (NIV)

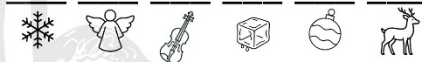
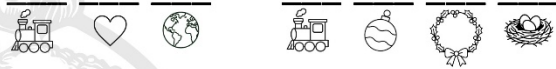
PUZZLE

GOOD NEWS TO THE SHEPHERDS

What did the angel of the Lord say to the shepherds?

Directions: Write the first letter of each picture on the lines.

“



”

Luke 2:11, NIV

Answer: "Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you." Luke 2:11, NIV



James Smith	12/8	Jennifer Lamason	12/29
Jeremy Innerst	12/13	Bey Seneca Sherman	12/29
Michelle Grafmyer	12/28	Douglas Hendrickson	12/31
Judy Sledzinski	12/28		

Corey & Darcie Dolin	12/8
John & Judy Sledzinski	12/20

Special Days

- Second Sunday of Advent, December 7, 2025
- Third Sunday of Advent, December 14, 2025
- First Day of Winter, December 21, 2025
- Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 21, 2025
- Christmas Eve, December 24, 2025
- Christmas Day, December 25, 2025
- New Year's Eve, December 31, 2025



Mason Dashiell	12/5	Juliana Vega	12/18
Denny Sheaffer	12/7	John Conrad	12/21

Thomas & Martha Liddick	12/1
Joey & Gary Shambaugh	12/9

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Join Hands

The Shermans Dale Ladies Aid will be collecting paper towels and band-aids to benefit Join Hands. A designated basket for donations is located in the hall of the Education Building at Shermans Dale.

Additionally, George Binger's class will be gathering boxes of facial tissues and shaving cream for Join Hands. Collections for these items take place on the last Sunday of each month.

Food Distribution at Youngs Rec Field

A box for food donations is under the communication table at Young's. Martha Liddick will deliver items from Shermans Dale Church.

Live Nativity

Our Live Nativity event takes place on December 11th and 12th.

We're introducing new scenes and narrations this year, and signing up to help is now easier—just visit:

<https://youngschurch316.org/ministries/live-nativity/>

There are open positions available; sign up today to join the cast and help make this year the best year ever!

Rehearsal for the narrators and the costume fittings will be held on November 30, 2025, at 1 pm at the Rec Field.

CHRISTmas Treasures

Christmas Treasures set up Friday December 5th @ 6pm and event is Saturday December 6th – if you would like to help, please let Missy or Kathy know, so we can find a job for you for the day - gifts for 10 to 12 year old girls \$20 to \$25 value.



Advent Is Here: Prepare Your Heart

The beauty and brightness from the glow of all five candles is a reminder that Christ's life was the light for all earth's people — "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it" (John 1:5, NRSV).

The Advent wreath is more than just greenery and candles—it's a symbol of watchfulness and growing joy as Christmas draws near.

Each part of the wreath carries symbolic meaning:

- **The wreath:** Its circular shape represents the everlasting love of God, having no beginning or end. The green symbolizes eternal life.
- **The four candles:** Mark the four weeks of Advent. One tradition says that each candle also represents 1,000 years, totaling 4,000 years from Adam and Eve to Christ's birth.
- **Purple candles:** in ancient times, were expensive and were considered the color of royalty and kings. On Christmas, Christ is proclaimed King of Kings. Purple also symbolizes humility and penitence.

The First Week of Advent: November 30, 2025

Candle Name: The Prophet's Candle

The First Week of Advent Represents: Hope

Candle Color: Purple

Purple is the traditional color for Advent, symbolizing penance, preparation, and sacrifice. The first week of Advent remembers Old Testament prophets who anticipated Jesus' coming with hope. This season invites you to experience that hope.

The Second Week of Advent: December 7, 2025

Candle Name: The Bethlehem Candle

The Second Week of Advent Represents: Peace and Preparation

Candle Color: Purple

In the second week of Advent, we reflect on self-improvement as we prepare for Jesus' arrival and remember Joseph and Mary's journey to Bethlehem. How has your journey toward Christmas been so far

The Third Week of Advent: December 14, 2025

Candle Name: The Shepherd's Candle

The Third Week of Advent Represents: Joy

Candle Color: Pink

The third Advent candle is pink, representing joy. In the third week of Advent, we celebrate the approaching arrival of Jesus on Christmas, also known as "Gaudete Sunday," reflecting on the shepherds' joy at His birth. Consider how Jesus may be inviting you to deeper joy this Advent.

The Fourth Week of Advent: December 21, 2025

Candle Name: The Angel's Candle

The Fourth Week of Advent Represents: Love

Candle Color: Purple

During this final week of Advent, we rejoice in the endless love that God has for us, which is made apparent in the birth of his Son. We reflect on the good news of God's love brought to us from the angel Gabriel. This is the last week to prepare our hearts for the joy of Christmas. Are you ready?



The Angels' Song in Three Words

On the very first Christmas Eve, frightened shepherds were suddenly surrounded by light and music. A choir of angels filled the night sky, singing: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men" (Luke 2:14, KJV).

Nineteenth-century pastor Charles Kingsley reflected on how those three simple words — glory, peace, and good will — still capture the meaning of Jesus' birth and the hope it brings.

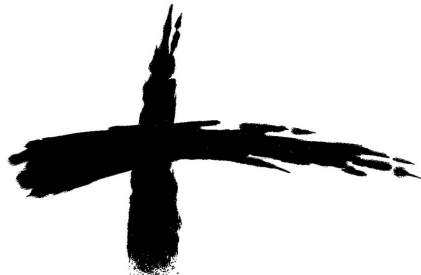
Glory. God's glory isn't shown in dazzling displays of power but in humility and mercy. The baby in the manger revealed God's greatness by stooping low, forgiving, and showing love.

Peace. True peace is more than the absence of conflict. It comes when we follow God's example of selflessness, giving up pride and selfish ambition to live in harmony with one another.

Goodwill. God's good will toward us is a gift that transforms our lives. Through Jesus, God invites us out of selfishness and sin into a life marked by love, kindness, and community.

The angels' song wasn't meant only for shepherds long ago. It still sings to us today, calling each of us to live in glory, peace, and goodwill.

**Mark your Calendar
February 18, 2026**



**ASH
WEDNESDAY**

12:00 Noon
Shermans Dale Church
Application of Ashes

6:00 PM
Young's Church
Soup Supper

6:45 PM
Application of Ashes



Sunday AM

Shermans Dale Church 9 AM
Young's Church of Shermans Dale 10 AM

	1st Scripture	2nd Scripture	Meditation
Dec. 7	Isaiah 11:1-10	Romans 15:4-13	Peace
Dec. 14	Isaiah 35:1-10	Luke 1:46-55	Joy
Dec. 21	Isaiah 7:10-16	Matthew 1:18-26	Love
Dec.28	John 1:1-18	Hebrews 1:1-14	In the Beginning

Young's Church with members of the
Shermans Dale and Mt. Gilead
Churches invite you and yours to
attend the admission free,

16th Annual, Drive-Through

Live
Nativity



Witness a new scene and a new theme.

Thurs. & Fri., Dec. 11 & 12, 6 to 8 PM,
316 Old State Road, Shermans Dale.

Call 717-275-7557
For more information.

You, yours and your not-yet Christian
friends and neighbors are invited to
celebrate Christmas and the coming new
year at one of the



12 Days of Christmas
At the
Parsonage Parties.

Plan to "drop in" on:

**Friday, January 2,
6:00 to 8:00 PM**

**Saturday, January 3,
2:00 to 4:00 PM**

No reservations needed. Please do not bring gifts. Your
presence will brighten the holidays.



Christmas Eve Worship

Children and youth join adults for a family-oriented service featuring carols, scripture reading, candle lighting and a special, original drama written by Pastor George.

**Young's Church of Shermans Dale
December 24, 6 PM**

Welcome the coming of the Christ Child, as together, we worship Him by the singing of carols, reading of scriptures, partaking of His body and blood and celebrating the dawn of Christmas in a candlelight service.

**Shermans Dale Church
December 24, 11 PM**

